

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 50

Introduced by Assembly Member Garrick

April 7, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 50—Relative to the Ronald Reagan Coronado Bridge.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 50, as introduced, Garrick. Ronald Reagan Coronado Bridge.

This measure would redesignate the San Diego-Coronado Bridge as the Ronald Reagan Coronado Bridge. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing the designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan was born in Tampico, Illinois in
2 1911 to John Edward “Jack” Reagan and Nelle Wilson Reagan,
3 and arrived in Hollywood in 1937. In December 1941, right after
4 the United States entered into World War II, Reagan was drafted
5 into the army. His nearsightedness kept him from the front line so
6 he spent three years working for the motion picture army unit
7 making training and propaganda films. Over the next three decades,
8 he starred in 53 films and was the host of General Electric Theater;
9 and
10 WHEREAS, During his time in the entertainment industry,
11 Ronald Reagan served as President of the Screen Actors Guild
12 from 1947 through 1952 and again in 1959. In 1957, the film
13 “Hellcats of the Navy,” which featured Ronald Reagan and his

1 future wife Nancy David, was filmed in San Diego. It was the only
2 film that starred both Ronald and Nancy; and

3 WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan was elected Governor of California
4 in 1966, serving two terms until 1975. In 1980, he was elected
5 President of the United States and was reelected in 1984. Ronald
6 Reagan won the majority of votes in San Diego County in the 1966
7 and 1970 gubernatorial elections, as well as the 1980 and 1984
8 presidential elections. He ended both of his presidential campaigns
9 in San Diego. With these victories, Ronald Reagan became the
10 first and only person to serve as Governor of California and
11 President of the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, Dealing skillfully with Congress, President Reagan
13 pursued legislation to stimulate economic growth, curb inflation,
14 increase employment, and strengthen national defense. He
15 embarked upon a course of cutting taxes and government
16 expenditures. During his two terms as President, he successfully
17 moved a nation, whose national spirit had been low, toward greater
18 prosperity and a sense that better times were ahead; and

19 WHEREAS, The excellent speech delivered by President Reagan
20 in Berlin on June 12, 1987, was not only the most important speech
21 of the entire Cold War, but also a turning moment for the East
22 German and Eastern European opposition. His message, a
23 straightforward call for freedom and democracy along with a
24 proposal for several more initiatives that should not be forgotten,
25 encouraged all those behind the Iron Curtain who hoped for a better
26 future. The Berlin Wall came down 10 months after President
27 Reagan left the White House, but his boldness in calling for its
28 demolition two years earlier plainly deserves much of the credit;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, San Diego has played host to many of the
31 significant events that marked the life of Ronald Regan, including
32 events at the El Cortez Hotel, University of California, San Diego,
33 the Embarcadero, and the San Diego Concourse. On August 2,
34 1969, Governor Reagan gave the dedication speech for the San
35 Diego-Coronado Bridge. He was quoted in 1988 stating that when
36 he was in San Diego, he felt he was with family and friends and
37 that he loved San Diego; and

38 WHEREAS, It is appropriate to redesignate the San
39 Diego-Coronado Bridge for Governor and President Ronald Reagan

1 to commemorate his deep-rooted connection with San Diego; now,
2 therefore, be it

3 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
4 *thereof concurring*, That the San Diego-Coronado Bridge is hereby
5 designated as the Ronald Reagan Coronado Bridge; and be it
6 further

7 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is hereby
8 requested to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing the
9 designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources
10 covering that cost, to erect those signs; and be it further

11 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit a copy
12 of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
13 for appropriate distribution.

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